

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended, claim 8 has been canceled, and claim 26 has been added. As such, claims 1-7, 9, 10, and 12-26 are currently pending in the case. Further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application are respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Claims 10 and 12-25 were allowed. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 10 and 12-25 and awaits allowance of the remaining claims.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 8 and 9 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims. Applicant sincerely appreciates the Examiner's recognition of the patentable subject matter recited in these claims. To expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of allowed claim 8, placing claim 1 in condition for allowance. Since claim 9 is dependent from claim 1, claim 9 is condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as that claim. Accordingly, removal of the objection to claims 8 and 9 is respectfully requested.

Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1-4, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,780,346 to Arghavani et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Arghavani"). As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable limitations of claim 8. Thus, claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, removal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Section 103 Rejections

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arghavani in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,114,216 to Yieh et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,348,389 to Chou et al. Since claim 5 is dependent from claim 1, claim 5 is condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as that claim. Accordingly, removal of the § 103(a) rejection of claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Patentability of the Added Claims

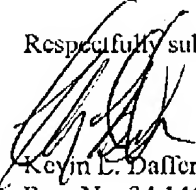
The present Amendment adds claim 26. Since claim 26 is dependent upon allowable claim 1, claim 26 is in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as that claim. Accordingly, approval of added claim 26 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

This response constitutes a complete response to all issues raised in the final Office Action mailed January 22, 2003. In view of the remarks traversing the rejections, Applicants assert that pending claims 1-7, 9, 10, and 12-26 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5298-06500.

Respectfully submitted,



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